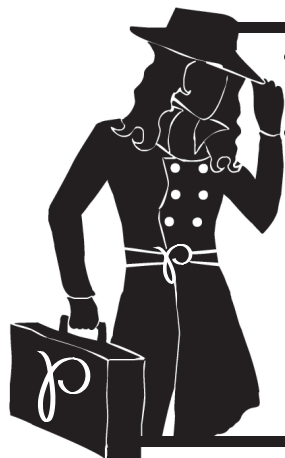


The State Education Resource Center presents
The 17th Annual Statewide Paraprofessionals As Partners Conference



MISSION: POSSIBLE

Paraprofessionals are always on the job.

Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT ♦ 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.)

***ADMINISTRATOR
SPECIAL**

**Session & Rate
\$45.00**

includes Lunch.
See below for details about the
session for administrators.

CONCURRENT SESSION INFORMATION

1 Understanding Challenging Behaviors-*Tarold Miller and Matthew Spar, SERC Consultants*
Paraprofessionals play an important role in providing behavioral support for students with disabilities. Working with at-risk student learners requires using universal practices and specialized intervention strategies. Participants in this session will analyze current practices of de-escalation while brainstorming strategies to increase behavior management, growth and development, and academic achievement.

2 Literacy for Students Who Can't (or Won't) Sit Still-*Greta Skiles, SERC Consultant*
Learning to read and write is challenging – especially for those who are kinesthetic/tactile learners. Young children, students with AD(H)D, and other physically active learners need opportunities to practice reading and writing skills while moving. This session will offer ideas for paraprofessionals and teachers to help their students build literacy skills while honoring their students' need to move.

3 Boys and Girls: Differences that Impact Learning-*Sean Kavanaugh, SERC Consultant*
Recent national data show a decrease in academic achievement for boys in K-12 schools. In this session, participants will examine recent brain science that reveals critical differences in the way boys learn, think, and feel when compared to girls. The presenter will share specific strategies, techniques, and tips that can be used when working with boys to increase effectiveness of instruction and resulting academic outcomes.

4 Understanding Autism: The Role of the Instructional Facilitator-*Keisha Powell and Lillie Stuart, SERC Consultants*
Autism spectrum disorders (ASD) affect communication, social interaction, and behavior. Participants in this professional development activity will gain knowledge and insight into the strengths and challenges that are associated with ASD. Topics of discussion will include techniques to manage behaviors, how to meet the academic and social needs of the student diagnosed with autism in the school setting, and review of unfamiliar terms.

5 Differentiating Instruction for Small Groups of Students-*Meg Porcella, SERC Consultant*
Working with small groups of students can be a challenge. This session will provide participants with information regarding specific critical student learning differences and preferred expression styles. Participants will also learn strategies to promote student independence (both academic and social) in a differentiated classroom.

6 IEPs: What Every Paraprofessional Needs to Know-*Anthony Brisson and Missy Wrigley, SERC Consultants*
Students with disabilities have a wide range of needs which are reflected in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). As IEP implementers, paraprofessionals need to know the difference between accommodations and modifications and other crucial information found in a student's IEP. Participants will leave with an understanding of the components of an IEP as well as how to differentiate between accommodations and modifications.

*** Paraprofessionals: What Administrators Need to Know (A.M. only)**

Rhonda Kempton and Iris White, CSDE Consultants

Paraprofessionals play important roles in supporting student achievement. But what exactly is their role and what components are necessary for their appropriate utilization? This session covers the differing roles of teachers and paraprofessionals and how administrators can support teacher-paraprofessional collaboration. It also includes an overview of current state and federal legislation and regulations regarding paraprofessionals. Administrators attending this session can easily share this information with paraprofessionals, general and special education teachers and other administrators.

KEYNOTE

Michael Foran

2012 MetLife/NASSP

National Principal of the Year

Mr. Foran currently serves as the principal of New Britain High School. Prior to this role, he was an educator in New Britain for 25 years. As principal of NBHS, Mr. Foran has focused on building a cohesive school community guided by one unifying purpose: to equip all students with the skills and competencies necessary to succeed in the next stage of their lives. Mr. Foran is proud of the progress the school has made and attributes this progress to the commitment and dedication of the entire NBHS staff.



Registration Information

Two hundred and seventy-five (275) Kindergarten through Grade 12 general and special education paraprofessionals, teachers, student support services professionals, and administrators can be accommodated. Applicants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis.

There is a fee of \$85.00 per applicant for the entire conference. Lunch will be provided. (Administrators attending the AM session and lunch pay \$45.00.) Please make check payable to *Rensselaer at Hartford*. Purchase orders will be accepted, but payment must be received prior to the conference.

The closing date for submitting applications is **Wednesday, October 31, 2012**. Confirmation of participation and directions will be provided shortly thereafter. Please send completed application form with registration fee to: Paraprofessionals As Partners, SERC, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1516. Direct content questions to Heather Dawes, Education Services Specialist at dawes@ctserc.org or (860) 632-1485, ext. 263. Direct registration questions to Yolanta Garcia, Senior Project Assistant, at garcia@ctserc.org or (860) 632-1485, ext. 264.

CEU Information

SERC will award **.4 CEUs**. To qualify for CEUs, participants must be preregistered, receive written confirmation from SERC, complete a conference evaluation form, and provide evidence of post-conference application/reflection. Evaluation forms and information about the application/reflection responsibility, as well as Certificates of Attendance for any participant not interested in receiving CEUs, will be available at the conference.

\$85 per person or \$45 for AM Administrators Session only

Application Form (code: 13-02-028)



.4 CEUs offered

Participants will attend two concurrent sessions and will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Have you been a participant in SERC professional development activities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

District _____ School _____

NAME _____ SERC MEMBER # _____ (IF KNOWN)

Home Phone _____ Preferred E-mail _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Release time authorization: **Administrator's signature** _____ (REQUIRED)

Please list any disability-related accommodation needed: _____

Please indicate your first, second, and third choice below. Sessions 1-6 are offered in both the AM and PM:

AM - PM

- _____ 1) Understanding Challenging Behaviors
- _____ 2) Literacy for Students Who Can't (or Won't) Sit Still
- _____ 3) Boys and Girls: Differences that Impact Learning
- _____ 4) Understanding Autism: The Role of the Instructional Facilitator
- _____ 5) Differentiating Instruction for Small Groups of Students
- _____ 6) IEPs: What Every Paraprofessional Needs to Know

Administrators Special Session

- _____ *Paraprofessionals: What Administrators Need to Know (AM)
(Administrators: .2 Supervision and Evaluation CEUs offered)



**MISSION:
POSSIBLE**
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SERC, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457

Phone (860) 632-1485 – Fax (860) 632-8870

www.ctserc.org

SERC. Equity. Excellence. Education.

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